

C. D.

FIFTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

PRESENTED MAY 27, 1846.



BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN, 24 CONGRESS STREET.

1846.

E.P.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE MASSACHUSETTS COLONIZATION SOCIETY held its Fifth Annual Meeting, for the transaction of business, at its office, on Wednesday, May 27, at 12 o'clock, at noon; T. R. MARVIN, Esq. in the Chair.

The Treasurer's account was received, and referred to the Board of Managers.

The following Officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz.

PRESIDENT.

HON. SIMON GREENLEAF.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

Rev. LEONARD WOODS, D. D.	Rev. WILLIAM M. ROGERS.
Rev. E. S. GANNETT, D. D.	Rev. WILLIAM HAGUE.
Rev. HEMAN HUMPHREY, D. D.	Rev. CHARLES BROOKS.
R. A. CHAPMAN, Esq.	Rev. B. B. EDWARDS, D. D.

SECRETARY AND GENERAL AGENT.

REV. JOSEPH TRACY.

TREASURER.

ELIPHALET KIMBALL, Esq.

AUDITOR.

JAMES BUTLER, Esq.

MANAGERS.

Rev. EBENEZER BURGESS, D. D.	T. R. MARVIN, Esq.
Rev. G. W. BLAGDEN.	JAMES HAYWARD, Esq.
Dr. J. V. C. SMITH.	JAMES C. DUNN, Esq.
HENRY EDWARDS, Esq.	Dr. ABRAHAM R. THOMPSON.
ALBERT FEARING, Esq.	

Adjourned, to meet at the Central Church, at 3 o'clock, P. M., for public exercises.

AFTERNOON. Met according to adjournment ; Rev. Dr. HUMPHREY, one of the Vice Presidents, in the Chair.

After prayer by the Rev. D. HUNTINGTON, of Bridgewater, and some appropriate remarks from the Chair, the Annual Report of the Board of Managers was read.

On motion of the Rev. C. HITCHCOCK, D. D., seconded by the Rev. R. EMERSON, D. D., and followed by remarks from the Hon. SAMUEL HOAR and Rev. CHARLES BROOKS, it was

Resolved, That the Report be accepted, and published under the direction of the Board of Managers.

On motion of the Rev. GEORGE L. SEYMOUR, of Liberia, supported by a statement of facts concerning that Commonwealth and its inhabitants, both native and emigrant, it was

Resolved, That the cause of African Colonization is worthy of our earnest and liberal support, on account of its beneficial influence, both on the emigrants themselves, and on the natives of Africa.

The Rev. C. J. TENNEY, D. D. then offered the following resolutions, which were seconded and adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society are due to Him in whose hand are the hearts of all men, for the increasing favor with which its enterprise is regarded by the pious and benevolent generally, throughout this Commonwealth.

Resolved, That, in most places in this Commonwealth, ministers and churches friendly to this Society may now, with perfect safety, take up public collections in behalf of its funds, on or near the fourth of July ; and that they be respectfully invited to resume that commendable practice.

The Society then adjourned.

ANNUAL REPORT.

At our last Annual Meeting, the Hon. Daniel Waldo was chosen President of this Society. In a few weeks, his work being done and well done, his Heavenly Father saw fit to release him from his earthly labors, that he might enter into his eternal rest. It is needless in this community to speak of his virtues; but it is a duty to record his dying testimony in favor of Colonization. This pure-minded and liberal-hearted follower of Christ, this enlightened patriot and philanthropist, this well-informed, cautious and judicious man of business, after many years of careful attention to the subject, judged that ten thousand dollars, given to the American Colonization Society, would be well appropriated, and left a bequest of that amount accordingly. The prompt payment of this legacy by his Executors, has enabled that Society to send out its last expedition from New Orleans, and meet other urgent claims without embarrassment.

Another of our distinguished benefactors, Miss Elizabeth Waldo, soon followed the kindred spirit of her brother to a better world. She also remembered Africa and the oppressed descendants of Africans in her will; making the American Colonization Society, with six other Charitable Institutions, her residuary legatees. These seven legacies are expected to amount to about \$12,000 each, but are not payable till after the death of her surviving sister.

We have also to record the death of another liberal donor, Oliver Smith, Esq., of Hatfield. Besides other donations, he had subscribed one thousand dollars for the purchase of territory, one half of which had been paid previous to our last Annual Meeting. The other half was payable when the whole sum of \$15,000 should be subscribed, and has, therefore, been due for some months; but owing to his death and some delay in settling his estate, it has not yet been paid. By his will, the greater part of his estate is to be invested in productive stocks till the income has doubled the amount, and then \$10,000 is to be set

apart as a permanent fund for Colonization. The present worth of the legacy, therefore, is five thousand dollars.

Thus we have three legacies, amounting to about \$27,000, in a single year. And it is worthy of remark, that in other States, Colonization is, much more frequently than heretofore, receiving its equal place with other charitable institutions in the dying thoughts and affections of Christian philanthropists.

In one respect, the liberality of the dead has operated unfavorably on the minds of the living. It has led some to feel that our necessities are now less urgent than formerly, so that our cause will suffer no injury if they withhold or diminish their donations. If the only object of our existence were to keep the funds of the Society out of embarrassment, this inference might be allowable; but if we are to carry on a great system of operations for the good of others, nothing can be more erroneous.

During the year, the Rev. Dr. Tenney has labored forty-three weeks and some days, has lectured on Colonization in about fifty places, and has collected funds, nearly all in small sums by personal application to individuals, in about eighty parishes, from forty-five of which nothing was received last year, and many of which were not previously accessible. The amount collected by him is less than it would have been, had he spent the year among our old and liberal patrons, but more permanent good has been done.

In no instance, so far as we are informed, has the presentation of our claims been the means of producing any unpleasant or injurious excitement; while in many places it has been followed by an evident increase of harmony of views and mutual kindness in the community. Dr. Tenney says, of certain places where he had been laboring: "The pastors speak and act out among their people their friendship for Colonization; and wherever the pastors do so, I find a most healthy and happy state of things in their own churches and congregations. But where the friendship of the pastors is, from any cause, unexpressed, there is more groping in darkness, and more division among their people. Pastors are more and more opening their pulpits and directly seconding the efforts made for this object."

According to an arrangement made some months previously, the Rev. J. B. Pinney, formerly Governor of Liberia, attended our last annual meeting, and immediately thereupon commenced an agency in this State. We expected his services to continue through the summer and into the autumn, and relied much upon them for the increase of our funds; but, from interruptions by the ill health of his family, and the necessity of visiting other parts of New England and returning early to his important labors in the Southern States, he was able to make collections in only six towns in this State. As previously ar-

ranged, the proceeds of his agency were paid over by him to the Parent Society, to the credit of our treasury.

In consequence of the necessary detention of Captain Barker in the service of the New York Society, we have not been able to employ so great an amount of agency in Boston and its vicinity as last year, and the amount as yet collected is nearly \$300 00 less; though, when completed, it will probably be greater.

Yet the amount paid in the State for the purposes of Colonization has been \$13,069 24; which is more than double the amount raised last year. Of this sum, \$11,384 has been received by the Parent Society, much the greater part of which was paid directly into its treasury, without passing through ours. Nothing has been received for the purchase of territory, the subscriptions in this State for that purpose having been previously paid, with the exception of the second \$500 from Oliver Smith, which is yet due. The amount passing through the treasury of the State Society for other purposes, including the amount raised by Rev. Mr. Pinney and Capt. Barker in our service, and paid over by them to the Parent Society, has been \$2,458 24, which is about the same as last year.

The affairs of the Parent Society have been unusually prosperous. Its receipts for the year 1845 were \$56,468 60; exceeding those of the preceding year by \$22,818 21. The amount received from the Colonial Store was 2,418 57 less than the previous year, a less quantity of goods having been sent out; the amount received for freight on goods carried out for others, and from masters, or the estates of deceased masters, or others specially interested, for the passage of emancipated slaves, \$6,145 19 less; from donations, \$14,874 60 greater; and from legacies, \$15,100 26 greater; so that there was an increase of donations and legacies, over the preceding year, of \$29,974 86.

Last year, the Parent Society was engaged in an effort to raise fifteen subscriptions, of \$1,000 each, for the purchase of territory. This, we are happy to announce, has been accomplished. Three of the subscriptions, or one-fifth of the whole, were obtained in this State. Meanwhile, an attempt to raise \$5,000 more for the same object by smaller subscriptions in Kentucky, has also been successful; so that, in all, \$20,000 has been subscribed for the purchase of territory. This, it is believed, may be so expended as to secure the whole coast, from Cape Mount to the northern boundary of the Maryland Colony at Cape Palmas. Other sums may be necessary, in future years, to complete some of the purchases; but they will doubtless be within the ordinary means of the Society.

Two companies of emigrants have been sent out to Liberia since our last meeting. The first company, of 187, sailed from Norfolk,

November 5, 1845, in the ship Roanoke, and arrived at Monrovia, December 8. They are thus described in the Annual Report of the Parent Society :

" Of these emigrants, one hundred and six were from King George County, Va., liberated by the will of the late Nathaniel H. Hooc : ten were from Prince William County, Va., liberated by the Rev. John Towles : five were from Pittsburgh, liberated by the Rev. Mr. Gibson : seventeen were from Essex County, of whom ten were liberated by the will of the late Edward Rowzee, five by Miss Harriet F. C. Rowzee, and one by the heirs of Edward Rowzee : eleven were from Frederic County, Va., liberated by Moncure Robinson, Esq., of Philadelphia : fourteen were from Shepherdstown and vicinity, Va., some of whom were free, and others were liberated for the purpose of allowing them to accompany their friends to Liberia : thirteen were from Halifax, N. C., liberated by the will of Thomas W. Lassiter : two were from Fredericksburg, Va., liberated by the will of the late William Bridges, of Stafford County, Va. : one was a free man from Petersburg, Va. : one also free, from Charleston, S. C., and seven from Medina, Orange County, N. Y.

" Many of them were persons of much more than ordinary fitness for citizens of Liberia. Many of them could read and write, and had been accustomed to taking care of themselves and their interests, and were industrious and prudent. Great liberality has been shown by the masters who have voluntarily set their servants free that they might go and improve their condition and their children's in Liberia.

" The whole company were well supplied with provisions, &c., for the passage and for six months after they arrive in the colony. Nearly the whole of this was done at the expense of the Society : only two of them having paid the full price. Many of them could pay nothing at all ; and for others only a part was paid.

" On their arrival in Liberia, we furnish them houses to live in for six months, give them a piece of land for their own, supply them with medicine and medical attendance when they are sick, and with all things necessary for their comfort during their acclimation. This gives them a fair chance for health and happiness.

" Upwards of seventy who had applied to go in the Roanoke, were left behind. Some of them could not get ready in time. Legal difficulties were thrown in the way of others. One family would not go because the husband and father had not been able to raise money to buy himself. While for some, we could not afford to pay the expenses, at the present time."

Soon after their arrival, the greater part of them were removed to their own permanent residences, some miles up the St. Paul's River. At our latest date, February 10, nearly all had passed through the acclimating fever. During acclimation, six had died ; one of whom was a very aged woman, and two of the others died in consequence of their own faults ; so that the mortality from acclimation has been about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

The other company sailed from New Orleans, in the Barque Rothschild, January 24. This company numbered 61 ; of whom 23 were from Tennessee, 35 from Kentucky, and 2 from Ohio. All of those from Tennessee, and 29 of those from Kentucky, were emancipated slaves. We have not yet been informed of their arrival.

It appears, therefore, that of these 248 emigrants, 215 were slaves, emancipated through the influence of Colonization; and the same is probably true of several others.

From Liberia, our accounts continue to be encouraging. The various departments of industry, civilization and Christian influence seem to be advancing, not as rapidly as is desirable, but quite as rapidly as it would be reasonable to expect.

The revenue for 1844 was \$8,175. That of 1845, besides certain sums not ascertained at the end of the year, was \$8,575, being an increase of \$400. The balance in the treasury at the close of 1844, after deducting certain out-standing claims, was \$201; at the close of 1845, \$989. The revenue has been sufficient to meet all the current expenses of government, and leave a considerable sum for public improvements. In 1842, the revenue was only \$4,027 36.

The relations of the Commonwealth with the surrounding tribes are of the most friendly character. Hence those tribes, otherwise inaccessible, are open to missionary effort; and a goodly number of missionaries, most of whom are colonists, are laboring among them with gratifying success. And it seems proper, in view of past events, to state, that there is now no difficulty, nor has there been for several years, between any company of missionaries, or any missionary Board or Society, and the Government of Liberia.

That Commonwealth has never had any difficulty with any foreign power, except Great Britain; and that seems now to have subsided, though there is yet need of a formal settlement. A brief history of those difficulties is as follows:

In August, 1836, the Liberian authorities purchased the territory of Bassa Cove from its rightful and undisputed owners. On the 18th of the next month, Capt. Spence, a British trader, obtained from Black Will, chief of a few migratory Fishmen then residing there as mere tenants at will, permission to establish a palm oil factory at Bassa Point, within the lately purchased territory. In April, 1839, the Liberian authorities made another treaty both with the Bassa chiefs and Black Will, in which the validity of the former purchase was acknowledged, and further, the whole political power and jurisdiction of that territory was ceded to the government of Liberia. From that time, at least, the revenue laws of the Commonwealth became applicable to Bassa Point. But in 1841, Captain Dring, another Englishman, landed goods at Bassa Point, and refused to pay the duties on them; alleging, but showing no proof, that he was the representative of Capt. Spence. His goods, to the amount of \$300, were seized by the revenue officers of that district, and sold for the payment of duties. Capt. Dring complained to Capt. Denman, the Commander of the British squadron on that coast. After some cor-

respondence with Gov. Roberts, Capt. Denman referred the matter to his government. The Colonization Society also brought it to the notice of the President of the United States. This led to a correspondence between Mr. Everett and Lord Aberdeen, and between Mr. Fox, the British minister at Washington, and Mr. Upshur, Secretary of State. In this correspondence, our government distinctly disclaimed all authority over Liberia, and all responsibility for its acts; declared its opinion, that Liberia ought to be regarded as an independent political community, and had advanced no claims which ought not to be allowed; and expressed its wish, that the British government would adopt the same views. That wish, however, was not gratified. A letter from Commandant Jones to Gov. Roberts, dated September 9, 1844, announced the decision of the British government, that Liberia had no rights of sovereignty, and therefore no authority to lay duties on imports. As this decision virtually denied the legal existence of the Liberian government, and the legality of all acts which it ever had performed, or ever afterwards might perform, it was of course impossible for that government to yield to it. Some British traders, however, determined to avail themselves of this decision. Captain Davidson, of the English schooner "Little Ben," arrived at Bassa Cove, landed goods, and refused to pay the harbor dues, and assigned as the reason, that Commandant Jones had notified the British traders that such charges were illegal, and should be resisted, and that the squadron under his authority was ready to protect them in their resistance. The collector seized goods of his, enough to pay the duties. He left, as he said, to report the case to Cominadant Jones. A day or two after, the British man-of-war "Lily" came into the harbor and took possession of the colonial schooner "John Seys," belonging to Stephen A. Benson, having on board a cargo of trade goods, valued at about \$5,000, and ready to proceed on a trading voyage to the leeward the following day. The captors refused to allow the captain to come on board, and when he made the attempt, they levelled their muskets at him and compelled him to desist. They offered no explanation of their conduct, and refused to hear anything in regard to the character of the schooner. There was every thing in the circumstances to induce the belief that the vessel was taken as a reprisal for the goods seized by the collector, and sold to fulfil the requirements of the law. Under this impression, a regulation was adopted, that no British trader should be allowed to land any goods in any Liberian port, unless all duties and other government charges were paid in advance. The John Seys, however, was carried to Sierra Leone, and charged before the Vice Admiralty Court with being engaged in the slave trade. As there was no proof of her guilt, nor even any plausible grounds for suspicion, the decision was in her favor; and Mr. Benson was informed

that he could have his vessel again, on paying the costs, which amounted to about one thousand two hundred dollars. Mr. Benson, who had already been injured by this outrage to the amount of several thousand dollars, refused to submit to this additional injustice, and determined to claim indemnity from the British government. Since that time, the views of British officers on that coast seems to have undergone a great and desirable change. Several British men-of-war visited Monrovia about the beginning of this year. All their officers expressed a deep interest in Liberia, and gave assurances that British traders would no more interfere with its internal regulations. They also expressed their regret that the John Seys had been seized, and believed that their government, on learning the facts, would make reparation. This result is equally honorable to both parties. Liberia has shown herself capable of understanding her rights, and of maintaining them with ability, with courtesy, and with unwavering firmness, against any antagonist; and Great Britain has shown herself capable of appreciating the claims of justice in favor of a weaker power.

This controversy showed the necessity of so amending the Constitution of Liberia, as to provide for the more convenient exercise of all the powers of sovereignty. As that Commonwealth needed to hold diplomatic intercourse with the British government, it evidently needed an executive department, authorized to treat with foreign powers without the interference of the Colonization Society. For this purpose, its relations to the Society must be essentially modified. This subject occupied the serious attention of the Directors of the Parent Society at their annual meetings in 1845 and 1846; and arrangements have been commenced, which, we trust, will in due time secure the recognition of Liberia, as a sovereign and independent state, by all governments with which she needs to hold intercourse.

The chiefs of New Sesters have again invited negotiation for the purchase of their territory; and two Commissioners, well supplied with merchandise, have gone southward, authorized to make the purchase, and to contract for all other yet unpurchased territory as far south as Grand Sesters, the desired northern boundary of the Maryland Colony at Cape Palmas. The purchase of New Sesters will extinguish the last remnant of the slave trade on the three hundred miles of coast which we wish to possess. On the north, too, the attempts to revive the slave trade at Cape Mount have been suppressed, and the danger that a British title to that place would be set up, has disappeared.

During the year, Liberia has also rendered important aid in the work of suppressing the slave trade on other parts of the coast. Our squadron, it is obvious, must have a rendezvous at some friendly port,

where the several vessels can find each other at appointed times, where naval stores can be deposited, and fresh provisions procured. These wants, in a good degree, have been supplied at Monrovia. There also much of the information has been collected, which has led to the seizure of vessels concerned in the slave trade; and there the rescued victims of that horrible traffic have found a refuge. The case of the Pons is already extensively known, but deserves to be recorded in this Report.

For about twenty days in November last, the Barque Pons, of Philadelphia, Capt. James Berry, lay at Cabinda, one of the most noted slave marts in Africa, near the equator. She was closely watched by the British brig Cygnet till the morning of the 27th, when the Cygnet stood out to sea. Capt. Berry then gave up his vessel to one Gallano, who took in water, provisions and slaves, and set sail at eight that evening. The Pons is estimated at less than 350 tons, and is therefore deemed, by our laws, incapable of conveying more than 210 passengers. But Gallano took on board 903. He intended to have taken 400 more, but dared not wait long enough to do it, lest he should expose himself to capture. On the 30th, she was captured a little south of the equator, by the United States ship Yorktown. Seven of the slaves had already died, reducing the number to 896. On going on board, the captors found the stench from the crowded hold so great, that it was impossible for them to stand more than a few minutes near the hatchways. Some of them went below, but were forced up sick in a few moments. A prize crew was put on board, and she was ordered to Monrovia, where she arrived on the 15th of December. Notwithstanding all that could be done to mitigate their sufferings, 140, about 10 a day, died on the passage. When landed, many of them were in a dying condition. There were then 709 young men and boys, mostly under 20 years of age, and 47 girls; all, except a very few, in a state of perfect nudity. Many of them had large sores worn in their sides and limbs, by lying so long in a confined position on bare planks. On landing, those who had strength enough rushed ravenously on the first puddle of filthy water that came in their way, and violence was necessary to prevent them from injuring themselves with it.

Dr. Lugenbeel, United States Agent for recaptured Africans, immediately commenced arrangements to meet the emergency, in which he was promptly aided by the people of Liberia. On the next day, the Methodist preachers in the vicinity had a meeting, resolved to take one hundred of them under the care of their mission, and subscribed \$135 for their temporary support; expecting soon to increase the subscription to \$500. Seventeen, who were Congoes, and said to be headmen, were placed at New Georgia, with some of their

countrymen, who had themselves been recaptured and settled there several years ago, and who agreed to take care of them, till they are able to take care of themselves. About 65 have died since their arrival, in consequence of the hardships of their voyage. The remainder have been placed, by the Probate Court, for a term of years, under the care of citizens, who have given bonds for their support and education.

To receive, support and educate such a multitude of naked, destitute, savage paupers, with no knowledge of any civilized business, no moral principle, no habits of moral restraint, no conception of the virtues of industry, economy, submission to law, or voluntary self-control, is a task which no small community would undertake for pleasure or profit. But Divine Providence has called on the people of Liberia to do it, and nobly have they responded to the call. Whether they can thus provide for as many more, is doubtful; and yet they may at any time be called upon to do it. Gallano, as has already been stated, left 400 at Cabinda, whom he intended to have taken on board the Pons. At or near the time of his sailing, it is known that there were about 6,000 confined in the barracoons at that place, waiting for opportunities of shipment. Great numbers were confined in barracoons at other slave marts; and agents are continually at work in the interior, buying slaves and bringing them to the barracoons on the coast. Three years ago, American ships were sometimes employed to carry supplies to slave factories, but very seldom for the conveyance of slaves. Of late, our flag having ceased to be suspected, answers their purpose better, and they are again using American ships, if they can get them. Not improbably, therefore, our squadron may soon have other cargoes of recaptured Africans to dispose of.

And if others are recaptured, what shall be done with them? What ought to have been done with the recaptives of the Pons? But for Colonization, what could have been done with them? Should they have been brought to the United States? To say nothing of other objections—if 140 died before reaching Monrovia, and 65 afterwards in consequence of their sufferings on the passage, how many would have died, and how intense must have been the wretchedness of the survivors, before reaching any port in the United States! Should they have been carried back to Cabinda, and landed there? The slave traders there, and their African allies, would have put them at once into the barracoons from which they had lately been shipped, to be shipped again by the next vessel. Should they have been escorted to their distant and widely scattered homes in the interior, where they were originally purchased? It would have been impossible to do it; and if done, those who sold them before, would sell them again to the next trader. No such plan is worth considering. If slave ships are

to be captured, there must be a place like Liberia, where the recaptives can find a refuge. And judging from present appearances, that refuge needs to be greatly enlarged and strengthened, lest it should prove insufficient to meet the demands that will be made upon it.

And this we hope to do. We hope greatly to increase both the number of emigrants, and our means of colonizing them. To show the grounds of our hope concerning emigrants, we must recall to mind some facts in the early history of our enterprise.

The first of the preliminary meetings at Washington, that led to the formation of the Parent Society, was held Dec. 21, 1816. At that meeting the formation of the Society was advocated by southern men, on account of the facilities which it would afford to slave-holders, desiring to emancipate their slaves. On the 14th of January, 1817, only two weeks after its organization, the Society presented a memorial to Congress soliciting the favor of the national government. That memorial mentioned the laws which some States had passed, embarrassing the practice of emancipation, and the danger that "benevolent and conscientious proprietors" would ultimately be deprived of that "right" altogether. At the first anniversary, January 1, 1818, the Hon. Bushrod Washington, on taking the chair as President, urged the claims of the Society, as keeping open a door for emancipation, and expressed the hope that it might, in the end, lead to the entire removal of slavery. A letter was read from Gen. Harper, of Maryland, expressing the same views. Gen. Mercer, of Virginia, advocated the Society on the same ground. Similar views have been expressed, early and late, by Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Madison, Mr. Clay, and other southern statesmen.* This feature of the Society has been distinctly mentioned or plainly alluded to, as an argument in its favor, by resolutions of the Legislatures of Virginia, of Delaware, of Tennessee, of Pennsylvania, of New Jersey, of Ohio, of Indiana, and of Connecticut, and virtually approved in resolutions of other Legislatures, both of the Free and the Slave States. The Society has been expressly pledged, from the very beginning, to abstain from all interference with the slave-holder's rights of property; for assisting him, at his own request, in executing his own "benevolent and conscientious" purposes, is no interference. And that pledge, even those members who believe that such "rights of property" are only legal and not moral rights, will doubtless insist that the Society shall sacredly ob-

*These men did not expect that the Society itself would actually remove to Africa, all the slaves, or all the free colored population, or even the whole annual increase of either. Some ardent and imaginative orators have uttered hopes of that kind on their own responsibility; but the Society has always expressly disclaimed all such expectations. The "entire removal of slavery" has been expected, principally, as the result of other agencies, which the Society's success would bring into operation.

serve. Yet the Society has bound itself, by pledges equally sacred and more numerous, to provide facilities for emancipation and tender them to the slave-holder, in the hope that he will accept and use them.

In this work, the Society has done what it could. Besides all it has done for free born persons of color and for more than 1,000 recaptured Africans, it has aided in the emancipation of about 2,750 slaves. But its usefulness has been limited for want of funds. Almost continually, since the hardships of the first settlement were overcome, the Society has been beset with applications which it could not meet. Masters have been continually invoking its aid, and continually told in reply, that the funds were wanting. The most pressing cases have been those of slaves to whom freedom has been bequeathed by their deceased masters on condition of their emigrating in a given time. The Society has sometimes been unable, for want of funds, to provide even for such cases, and has been obliged to look on with anguish, while the set time expired, and the slaves were sold at auction to settle the estate. Instead of making it known throughout the south, that "benevolent and conscientious" masters may avail themselves of our aid in emancipating their slaves, we have been compelled, by these habitual refusals, to make the contrary notorious, and thus to crush the hopes which we ought to have nourished and matured into practical beneficence.

All this ought to be reversed. Masters, throughout the south, ought to know that when they are ready to give up their slaves, we are ready to receive them, if of suitable character, and place them in a better situation than can be found for them in the United States. In order that they may know this, the ability ought to be given us, and they ought to be informed of it. The ability ought to be given us. The funds of the Parent Society ought to be raised to \$75,000 this year, and to \$100,000 the next, and to be increased in subsequent years, according to the demand upon them. And masters should be informed of it. Suitable applications already made, should at once receive an affirmative answer; and hundreds of masters who have been withholding their applications because they understand that it would be of no use to make them, ought to be told that we are at last ready. Nor this only. An immense multitude of Christian and philanthropic masters are either ignorant of our plans and our doings, or are misinformed concerning them. Means ought to be used to inform them effectually. The Colonization Society of Maryland, a slaveholding State, actually employs an agent every year, to go through the State and find emigrants. We ought to employ several such agents. They would be as well received in most of the other States as in Maryland. By employing them, we should only be carrying out our original design, published to the world, approved by our friends, and

understood by our opponents, from the very beginning of our existence. Let this change come over the style of our proceedings; instead of repulsing and discouraging applicants with the story of our inability to aid them, let us be able to aid all that come, and then go forth and carry the offer of aid to all who would gladly receive it, and Colonization shall advance, with rapid and majestic step, towards the accomplishment of its great and good designs.

But let us all remember, that the Society cannot enter on this more glorious career, by falsely proclaiming an ability which it does not possess. Like an honest man of business, it must know where the money is to come from, before promising to pay it. Let the friends of the colored man place in our treasury the means of promising and keeping our word, and we will soon gladden many hearts, both of the bond and the free, and rapidly confer blessings on two continents.

DONATIONS

To the Massachusetts Colonization Society, for the year ending May 27, 1846.

Amherst, collected by Rev. Dr. Tenney,	2 00	Cabotville, collected by Dr. Tenney,	1 00
Rev. Mr. Pinney,	27 00	Cambridge, Mrs. D. Leavitt,	3 00
Andover, collected by Rev. Mr. Pinney,	95 00	West, coll. by Dr. Tenney,	12 93
From Ladies' Colonization Soc.	11 75	Canton, Friend Crane, donation,	3 00
Attleboro', South, col. by Dr. Tenney,	16 00	Chester, collected by Dr. Tenney,	1 25
Auburn,	3 35	Conway,	do. 16 98
Beverly,	39 50	Dudley,	do. 14 00
From Mrs. Hooper,	10 00	Dunstable, contrib. Rev. Mr. Brig-	
do. do.	5 00	ham's Society,	44
Blandford, collected by Dr. Tenney,	6 50	Enfield, collected by Dr. Tenney,	7 00
Boston, collection, July 4,	18 18	Essex,	do. 16 37
O. Everett, by Rev. J. B. Pinney,	25 00	Fairhaven,	do. 18 00
Bequest of John Brown, by R.		Foxboro', D. Carpenter, by Dr. Tenney,	10 00
Soute, Esq. Exr.	100 00	Framingham, collected by Dr. Tenney,	33 51
T. R. Marvin,	10 00	Franklin,	do. 15 50
J. C. Dunn,	50 00	Gardner, Moses Wood, Esq.	5 00
Rev. Asa Bullard,	5 00	Georgetown, collected by Dr. Tenney,	5 50
W. W. Stone,	50 00	Gloucester	do. 18 00
James Hayward,	50 00	Graunby, Samuel Ayres, Esq. by Dr. T.	100 00
Rev. E. S. Gannett, D. D.	5 00	Greenwich, collected by Dr. Tenney,	1 00
Henry Edwards,	10 00	Hadley, South,	do. 8 00
Eliphalet Kimball,	10 00	Harvard,	do. 20 00
A. E. Thornton, England, by E.		Haverhill, collected by Capt. G. Barker,	19 00
Kimball,	10 00	Holden, collected by Dr. Tenney,	5 25
P. C. Brooks,	50 00	Holliston,	do. 7 00
M. Brimmer,	20 00	Hopkinton,	do. 3 50
J. Chickering,	20 00	Leicester,	do. 22 50
J. D. Williams,	20 00	Leominster, contribution,	4 25
Albert Fearing,	10 00	Lowell, collected by Rev. J. B. Pinney,	25 00
S. A. Eliot,	10 00	Lynn, 1st Cong. Church, contribution,	5 00
Samuel Johnson,	10 00	Maine, (town unknown,) an aged Lady,	5 00
H. M. Hollbrook,	10 00	Manchester, collected by Dr. Tenney,	30 00
William Ropes,	10 00	Mansfield,	do. 3 00
Rev. G. W. Blagden,	5 00	Marblehead,	do. 5 00
The Misses Inches,	5 00	Medfield,	do. 5 50
Rev. N. L. Frothingham, D. D.	5 00	Medway, East,	do. 16 50
Rev. Charles Brooks,	5 09	D. Walker,	do. 30 00
P. P. Butler,	5 00	Village,	do. 33 75
Moses Grant,	5 60	Middlefield,	do. 1 00
Jabez C. Howe,	5 00	Milton, Joseph Rowe, Esq. by Dr. T.	10 00
Charles Mixter,	5 00	Nashua, N. H. Rev. S. G. Bulfinch,	2 00
William J. Hubbard,	5 00	New Bedford, collected by Dr. Tenney,	90 00
David Clapp, Jr.	3 00	Newbury and Newburyport, collected	
William A. Brewer,	2 09	by Rev. J. B. Pinney,	102 00
Rev. S. H. Riddel,	3 00	Newburyport, Capt. Micajah Lunt, by	
Ebenezer T. Andrews,	10 00	Capt. Barker,	10 00
S. J. M. Homer,	1 00	Northampton, collected by Dr. Tenney,	30 00
A Friend.	1 00	Northbridge,	do. 19 11
Dea. N. Dana.	3 00	Oxford, Col. A. De Witt, do.	10 00
Bradford, coll. by Capt. G. Barker,	14 50	Palmer,	do. 1 00
Bradford, West, coll. by Dr. Tenney,	19 50	Paxton,	do. 1 00
Bridgewater, donation N. Tillinghast,	10 00	Plymouth, Josiah Robbins, Esq.	5 00
Brimfield, collected by Dr. Tenney,	17 00	Ponemanset, collected by Dr. Tenney,	2 00
Brookfield, South,	3 50	Reading, South,	do. 18 00
West,	2 00	Rockport,	do. 32 06
Byfield,	3 50	Rowley,	do. 5 25

Salem, collected by Dr. Tenney,	98 00	Upton, collected by Dr. Tenney,	28 53
Saxonville, do.	12 50	Uxbridge, do.	68 20
Sharon, do.	3 00	Walpole, do.	8 50
Shrewsbury, do.	25 03	Waltham, do.	32 75
Southampton, do.	35 00	Ware Village, do.	26 50
Southbridge, do.	13 00	Westboro', Mr. White,	10 00
Spencer, do.	7 25	Collected by Dr. Tenney,	11 25
Springfield, do.	40 50	Westford, contribution,	25
West, do.	29 75	Whitinsville, collected by Dr. Tenney,	40 50
Stockbridge, contribution 4th July,	16 04	Williamsburgh, do.	26 00
Sturbridge, collected by Dr. Tenney,	21 39	Woburn, South, do.	6 12
Sudbury, do.	23 95	Worcester, collected by Dr. Tenney :	
Sutton, do.	5 70	C. Washburn, Esq.	5 00
Taunton, collected by Dr. Tenney :		Mrs. M. G. Bangs,	5 00
Rev. Mr. Maltby's Society,	8 25	Dea. I. Washburn,	20 00
Rev. Mr. Brigham's do.	17 00	Hon. S. Salisbury,	10 00
Rev. Mr. Bent's do.	13 00	Wrentham, collected by Dr. Tenney,	10 50
West, Rev. Mr. Cobb's do.	7 00		
Sent afterwards by Rev. Mr. Cobb,	23 00		

LIFE MEMBERS

Of the Massachusetts Colonization Society, by the payment of \$80, or more.

N. B. This list does not include Life Members of the *American Colonization Society*, unless they are also Members of this Society; nor memberships subscribed, but not paid.

Hon. William B. Banister, Newburyport.
 Albert Fearing, Esq., Boston.
 Rev. Ebenezer Burgess, D. D., Dedham.
 George Howland, New Bedford.
 James Hayward, Esq., Boston.
 Rev. M. G. Wheeler, Williamsburg.
 Lewis S. Hopkins, Northampton.
 Hon. G. Kendall, Worcester.
 Rev. Daniel Fitz, Ipswich.
 Edward A. Pearson, Esq., Harvard.
 Mrs. M. B. Blanchard, Harvard.
 Rev. Wakefield Gale, Rockport.

Rev. O. A. Taylor, Manchester.
 James C. Dunn, Esq., Boston.
 W. W. Stone, Esq., Boston.
 Rev. Samuel Clarke, Uxbridge.
 Rev. John Orcutt, Uxbridge.
 Hon. P. C. Brooks, Boston.
 Capt. John Cole, Medway Village.
 Dean Walker, East Medway.
 Rev. Alvan Cobb, Taunton, West.
 Samuel Ayres, Esq., Granby.
 Rev. I. N. Tarbox, Framingham.

A P P E N D I X.

I. LETTER FROM COMMANDER ABBOT, OF THE U. S. NAVY.

Warren, R. I., May 5, 1846.

REV. JOSEPH TRACY, Sec. of the Mass. Col. Soc.

SIR,—Your esteemed note of the 2d instant, soliciting my attendance at the approaching anniversary of the Massachusetts Colonization Society, to be held in Boston the 27th of this month, has reached me at a moment when I am about to set out on a journey to the south and west, which, together with my present state of health, will not allow me to be present with you at the interesting and important occasion named. Had I the tact and ability, and were I accustomed to address public bodies, I should very much regret this inability, though I am probably not in possession of any very important information that is not possessed by the gentlemen you have named; but the circumstance of my having visited the African coast, at very many points, from about 15 degrees north to about 15 degrees south latitude, might have, in some degree, its influence.

Although I shall not be enabled to be with you personally, I hope and trust I shall be so in prayerful spirit for the success of an object which I cannot but view as one of the most interesting and important that can claim the attention and sympathy of the Christian and philanthropist at the present day; besides that, in a political and national point of view, it is, I think, well worthy the study of our ablest statesmen, and the fostering aid of government, in consideration of the present and future prosperity of our agricultural, manufacturing and commercial interests. For, were Africa, as she now is, to be struck out of existence, all these interests would feel it a calamity; but were a requisition now made for only a single garment for each individual of the myriads of the African race, it would probably require the energies of the whole world for at least five years to supply it.

Although it is “the day of small things” with our colored colonists in Africa, yet I believe there is no one who has visited them but is favorably impressed with their present condition, beyond what was anticipated; and, with the belief of their progressive improvement, and of their growing importance in all the various relations concerning Africa and the African race, that should interest the Christian, philanthropist, and statesman.

In this age of machinery and steam power, and steamboat and railroad speed, it is feared that too much, in too short a time, may be expected by many to be realized in the necessarily slow process of colonizing, civilizing, and Christianizing the African race. The generation that plants the acorn cannot expect to enjoy the lofty shade of a towering oak. It can only be to those that come after. So in regard to this good work in Africa. Its progress must be slow; but if properly conducted, a great and mighty result is sure. And it is believed that no work, to be recounted in future history, will reflect more credit and glory upon the present age, than that

which has for its object, quietly and, peaceably, to free the world of the inconveniences and evils of slavery, and to give to the people of a great, but dark and benighted continent, the blessings of civilization and Christianity.

Though in haste, I feel unwilling to close this communication without bearing my humble meed of praise and commendation in favor of J. J. Roberts, Governor of the Commonwealth of Liberia, and John B. Russ-wurm, Governor of the Colony of Cape Palmas, as eminently deserving the confidence of those who have placed them in their high and responsible stations, and that their moral and Christian characters are believed to be such as to entitle them to the confidence of the Christian world.

I am yours, with great respect,

JOEL ABBOT.

II. THE PONS.

Extract of a Letter from Capt. Charles H. Bell to the Secretary of the Navy, dated Cabinda, (Africa), Dec. 16, 1845.

THE Pons, under the command of James Berry, was at anchor at Cabinda for about twenty days before she took on board the slaves, during which time she was closely watched by her Britannic Majesty's brig Cygnet, Commander Layton. At about 9 o'clock, on the morning of the 27th November, the Cygnet got under way and stood to sea. Immediately Berry gave up the ship to Gallano, who commenced getting on board the water, provisions, and slaves; and so expeditious were they in their movements, that at eight o'clock that evening the vessel was under way, having embarked nine hundred and three slaves. Instead of standing directly to sea, she kept in with the coast during the night. At daylight they were off Kacongo, about twenty-five miles to the north of Cabinda, when they discovered the Cygnet in the offing. They immediately furled all their sails, and drifted so near the shore that the negroes lined the beach in hope of a shipwreck. They continued in this situation until meridian, when, finding they had not been discovered, they set their lower sails in order to clear the shore, and, as the Cygnet drew off from the land, they afterwards set their more lofty ones. Two days afterwards we captured her. Her crew consisted of Spaniards, Portugese, Brazilians, and some from other countries; and, although continuing under the American flag, with probably American papers, not one American was on board.

As I could not dispatch her the evening of her capture, she kept company with us that night. The next morning I regretted to learn that eighteen had died, and one jumped overboard. So many dying in so short a time was accounted for by the captain in the necessity he had of thrusting below all who were on deck, and closing the hatches, when he first fell in with us, in order to escape detection. The vessel has no slave deck, and upwards of *eight hundred and fifty* were piled, almost in bulk, on the water casks below. These were males. About forty or fifty females were confined in one-half of the round-house cabin on deck; the other half of the cabin remaining for the use of the officers. As the ship appeared to be less than three hundred and fifty tons, it seemed impossible that one-half could have lived to cross the Atlantic. About two hundred filled up the spar deck alone, when they were permitted to come up from below, and yet the captain assured me that it was his intention to have taken *four hundred more* on board if he could have spared the time.

The stench from below was so great that it was impossible to stand more

than a few moments near the hatchways. Our men who went below from curiosity, were forced up sick in a few minutes; then all the hatches were off. What must have been the sufferings of these poor wretches when the hatches were closed? I am informed that very often in these cases, the stronger will strangle the weaker; and this was probably the reason why so many died, or rather were found dead, the morning after the capture. None but an eye witness can form a conception of the horrors these poor creatures must endure in their transit across the ocean.

I regret to say that most of this misery is produced by our own countrymen; they furnish the means of conveyance in spite of existing enactments; and although there are strong circumstances against Berry, the late master of the "Pons," sufficient to induce me to detain him, if I should meet with him, yet I fear neither he nor his employers can be reached by our present laws. He will no doubt make it appear that the "Pons" was beyond his control when the slaves were brought on board. Yet, from the testimony of the men who came over from Rio as passengers, there is no doubt the whole affair was arranged at Rio between Berry and Gallano before the ship sailed. These men state that the first place they anchored was at Onin, near the river Lagos, in the Bight of Benin; here they discharged a portion of their cargo, and received on board a number of hogsheads or pipes filled with water. These were stowed on the ground tier, and a tier of casks containing spirits were placed over them. *They were then informed that the vessel was going to Cabinda for a load of slaves.*

On their arrival at the latter place, the spirit was kept on board until a few days before Berry gave up the command, covering up the water casks in order to elude the suspicions of any cruiser. For twenty days did Berry wait in the roadstead of Cabinda, protected by the flag of his country, yet closely watched by a foreign man-of-war, who was certain of his intention; but the instant that cruiser is compelled to withdraw for a few hours, he springs at the opportunity of enriching himself and owners, and disgracing the flag which had protected him.

Extract of a Letter from one of the Missionaries of the Methodist Episcopal Church to a friend in New York, dated Monrovia, Dec. 15, 1845.

LAST evening, after we had returned from meeting, and had commended ourselves to God in prayer, and thus closed up the enjoyments and privileges of our first Sabbath in Africa, we were surprised by the entrance of one of our neighbors, who brought us intelligence that a slaver, the Pons, of Philadelphia, had been captured by the United States sloop-of-war Yorktown, Captain Bell, and that she was now lying in our harbor with 750 captives on board that were to be landed here. We could not learn further particulars, than that the vessel was captured on the 1st inst., when three days out from Cabinda, a noted slave factory on the coast south of the equator. That, when taken, there were over 900 of these miserable creatures on board, but that 150 of them had died during the last fourteen days.

I had read and heard much of slavery and the horrors attendant upon the slave trade; now an opportunity offered to know from actual observation, whether the statements with which I had been made acquainted, were exaggerated or not. In company with His Excellency Governor Roberts and several others, I this morning went on board the prize. I had been prepared, to some extent, for a scene of horror, by the account of Lieut. Cogdell, the gentlemanly officer in command; but I found the half had not been told me. Nay, it is utterly impossible for language to convey an appropriate idea of the suffering of that wretched company. The decks were literally crowded with poor abject beings. The living and the dying were

huddled together with less care than is bestowed upon the brute creation. Here and there might be seen individuals in the last agonies of expiring nature, unknown and apparently unnoticed. There was no offer of sympathy to alleviate in the least their misery. Their companions appeared dejected, weighed down with their own sorrows. My heart sickens at the remembrance of that awful scene. As I came on the crowded deck, I saw directly in front of me, one emaciated and worn down by long suffering to a mere skeleton, pining away and apparently near eternity. I looked over into the steerage. The hot, mephitic air almost overpowered me. At the foot of the ladder lay two of the most miserable beings I ever beheld. They were reduced, as the one above named, so that their bones almost protruded from their flesh. Large sores had been worn upon their sides and limbs, as they had been compelled to lay upon the hard plank composing the deck of the vessel. They lay directly under the hatchway, whither they had crawled, apparently to obtain a little purer air. One I thought dead, until by some slight motion of the limbs I discovered his agonies were not yet ended. The other lay with his face toward me, and such an expression of unmitigated anguish I never before saw. I cannot banish the horrid picture. These were not isolated cases, but as they were those that were first noticed, they made, perhaps, a stronger impression on my mind. In another part of the vessel lay a little boy, pining away, with two others watching over him. They were not brothers, but had been captured from the same place. They had procured a bit of muslin, that had probably been thrown away by some of the crew, and had placed it under his aching head for a pillow. Could you have seen them, I am sure the fountain of feeling would have been broken up, and the tears would have forced themselves from their hiding place. For the fourteen days that the vessel had been under the charge of the present commander, they had been assiduous in their care: one or the other of them attending on him constantly, and keeping watch alternately at night for this purpose. Oh! if I could portray the scene as I saw it; could I present it to your imagination, without any coloring, as it was actually presented to my view, your blood would chill in your veins. Five had been thrown over, dead, this morning, and many more were apparently just expiring. And yet they tell me this is comparatively nothing; and I should judge so, if the statement of the captured captain can be relied on. He says that they left some 400 or 500 more at the factory, that he had intended to have taken with him on the same vessel, but was prevented by the proximity of an English cruiser.

W. B. HOYT.

III. U. S. AGENCY FOR RECAPTURED AFRICANS.

This agency was established under an act of Congress of March 3, 1819, to facilitate operations for the suppression of the slave trade. Experience had shown its necessity.

An act of Congress of March 22, 1794, had prohibited all citizens and residents of the United States from engaging in the slave trade between foreign countries, on pain of forfeiture of vessels and heavy fines.

By an act of April 3, 1798, the introduction of slaves into the Mississippi Territory was forbidden under severe penalties, and all such slaves declared free.

By an act of May 10, 1800, citizens and residents of the United States were prohibited from holding property in vessels engaged in the slave trade between foreign countries, or serving on board American or foreign vessels

engaged in that trade ; and our ships of war were authorized to seize all vessels and persons employed in violating this act.

An act of February 28, 1803, forbade the importation of slaves into any port where the laws of the State prohibited their importation.

By an act of March 2, 1807, the importation of slaves into any port of the United States was prohibited, under severe penalties, after January 1, 1808, the earliest period at which Congress had the constitutional power to prohibit the traffic in States which chose to continue it. In nearly all the States it had been abolished by State legislation ; but a few of the most southern States still continued it ; and to the last, slaves were landed, especially at Charleston, in considerable numbers, *chiefly from British vessels*. This act provided for the seizure of slave ships ; but it left the slaves thus imported into any State, subject to any regulations not contravening this act, which the legislature of such State might adopt.

Of the proceedings under this law for several years, the documents before us give no account. There is reason to suppose, however, that it was evaded under various pretexts, and to a lamentable extent. The act of April 20, 1818, seems to have been intended to meet these evasions. By one section of this act, the burthen of proving the legality of the importation of every colored person was thrown upon the importer.

Of the nature of the evasions practiced about that time, we have some documentary evidence. Letters on file in the Treasury Department show that negroes, as well as other "goods," were smuggled into the United States from Galveston and its vicinity. The notorious pirates of Barataria were engaged in this work, and with lamentable success.

May 22, 1817, the collector of Savannah wrote to the Secretary of the Treasury, that it *had become* a practice to smuggle slaves into Georgia from Florida. In the same month, a court in Louisiana decided that five negroes in custody of the U. S. officers, should be delivered up to certain Spaniards who had set up a sham claim to them, and that the persons who seized them should pay half the costs, and the State the other half. This decision had such an effect that the U. S. officers found it almost impossible to obtain assistance in making seizures.

A letter from the collector at Mobile, October 7, 1818, states that three vessels, their cargoes, and more than 100 slaves, had been seized ; that the Grand Jury had found true bills against the owners, masters and supercargo ; that the proof was ample for their conviction ; but that the persons indicted had all been discharged by the court, and the vessels delivered up to their owners, and the slaves to three other persons, on their bonds to produce them when legally demanded.

A letter from the collector of Darien, Ga., March 14, 1818, states that "African and West India negroes are almost daily illicitly introduced into Georgia, for sale or settlement, or passing through it into the territories of the United States for similar purposes. These facts," he adds, "are notorious ; and it is not unusual to see such negroes in the streets of St. Mary's ; and such, too, recently captured by our vessels of war, and ordered to Savannah, were illegally bartered by hundreds in that city ; for this bartering, or bonding, (*as it is called*, but in reality, *selling*,) actually took place before any decision had been passed by the court respecting them." The bonds here referred to were given by order of the State court, "for the restoration of the negroes, when legally called on to do so ; which bond, it is understood, is to be forfeited, as the amount of the bond is so much less than the value of the property ;" or perhaps they would never be called on to produce the negroes. He says further :—"There are many negroes recently introduced into this State and the Alabama territory, and which can be apprehended."

The same letter mentions another mode of evading the law. An act of the Legislature of Georgia of December 19, 1817, authorized the Govern-

or to sell all slaves unlawfully introduced, at public auction, for the benefit of the State treasury. The surveyor of the port of Darien had seized 88 slaves. For some weeks, the Governor had known that these slaves, unlawfully introduced, were within 60 miles of his residence, but no notice was taken of them by him, or any of his subordinates. But as soon as he learned that an officer of the United States had seized them, he demanded them to be delivered up to him under this act of the State Legislature. In view of all these modes of evasion, the collector concludes that "it requires the immediate interposition of Congress to effect a suppression of this traffic." A similar law was enacted in Louisiana about the same time; and in both States considerable numbers were sold, and the avails received into the State treasuries. The collector of New Orleans wrote, April 17, 1818, transmitting the act of Louisiana, and adding:—"Vast numbers of slaves will be introduced to an alarming extent, unless prompt and effectual measures are adopted by the General Government."

But there were constitutional difficulties in the way of any measures which the General Government might adopt for their protection in this country. In the words of the Secretary of State, November 2, 1818, "The condition of the blacks being, in this Union, regulated by the municipal laws of the separate States, the government of the United States can neither guaranty their liberty in the States where they could only be received as slaves, nor control them in the States where they would be recognized as free." The Government could only turn them loose, in all their barbarism and ignorance, in the free States, without that provision for their guardianship and education which their welfare would indispensably require. Ignorant of our language, and of every thing pertaining to civilization, in the midst of a nation of strangers, they would be wretched, and would remain so. And besides all this, some of the free States would, and all of them might, prohibit their introduction by law.

In view of such facts, Congress passed the act of March 3, 1819. Besides making more effectual provision for the seizure of slavers, that act authorizes the President to make arrangements for the safe keeping, support and removal beyond the limits of the United States, of all such slaves; and to appoint an agent or agents on the coast of Africa for receiving them. A sum, not exceeding \$100,000, was appropriated for carrying this law into effect.

About a month after the date of this act, the Hon. Wm. H. Crawford communicated to the Managers of the Colonization Society, a newspaper, published at Milledgeville, the capital of Georgia, containing an advertisement of the sale of 34 unlawfully imported slaves, by the authority and for the benefit of the State, to take place on the 4th of May. That Society had been organized in December, 1816. The act of Georgia, under which these negroes were to be sold, provided that if, previous to the sale of such negroes, the Society would undertake to settle them in Africa at its own expense, and would likewise pay all expenses which the State might have incurred on their account, the Governor might aid in promoting the benevolent views of the Society in such manner as he might deem expedient. It does not appear that any provision was made for informing the Society of the existence of such cases, or that the State ever gave any such information.

April 7, the Managers appointed the Rev. Wm. Meade, now Bishop Meade, of Virginia, to proceed to Georgia and endeavor to prevent the sale. In this he was successful; but certain Spaniards claimed the negroes as their property, and it was not till the spring of 1822, that 18 of them were delivered, as freemen, into the care of the Society. Mr. Meade also ascertained that there were several hundreds of slaves in Georgia similarly situated; many of them being "bonded," as described by the collector of Darien, with insufficient security.

The Government immediately made arrangements for keeping all recaptured Africans in its own custody, till they could be sent to Africa. The President, Monroe, could find no suitable person on the coast of Africa, to appoint as Agent for recaptured Africans. He therefore determined to send out a ship of war, with two agents, and the necessary means of preparing a suitable residence for the objects of their care. A contract was made with the Colonization Society, for the erection of suitable buildings and other facilities; and in 1820, the first colonists went out, under obligations to fulfil this contract. In the spring of 1822, the negroes from Georgia went out, under the care of Mr. Ashmun.

During Mr. Ashmun's whole administration, he was Governor of the colony, under the authority of the Society, and Agent of the United States for recaptured Africans. Since his death the same person has frequently held both offices; but more frequently, of late, the Colonial Physician has been the agent. The present agent is Dr. J. W. Lugenbeel, of Maryland.

This arrangement, with the other provisions of the act of 1819—the conclusion of the wars in South America, the suppression of piracy, the acquisition of Florida, and, we may hope, the greater prevalence of right views of the immorality of the business—rapidly diminished the attempts to smuggle slaves into the United States. Since that time, too, slavers have usually thought it best to carry other flags when they have had slaves on board. For such reasons, the captures have not been so numerous as there was then reason to expect.

The whole number of recaptured Africans sent out by the U. S. Government, according to the census of Liberia, September, 1843, is 286; but this does not seem to include the 18 sent out in 1822. The true number, probably, is 304. Of these, nine were sent out in 1839; 37 in 1835; and no others since 1830. To these have been added a considerable number, released by force from slave factories and piratical establishments which had made war on the colony; but such persons, not coming within the provisions of the act of 1819, have been provided for at the expense of the Society, and not of the U. S. Government.

The recaptured Africans are principally settled at New Georgia, which is situated about five miles nearly north from Monrovia, on the eastern shore of Stockton Creek, a stream which unites the waters of the St. Paul's and Mesurado rivers. Some of them, however, are settled in other places, and a few who are not of their number reside at New Georgia. The population of that settlement, in 1843, was 264.

The number of convictions for crime, among the recaptured Africans, from April, 1828, to September, 1843, about 15½ years, was 25. At the date last mentioned, 116 of them were communicants in 12 Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian churches, and there were 55 children in the school at New Georgia. The settlement is almost exclusively agricultural. On the census, 67 are enumerated as farmers. New Georgia is entitled to a representation in the legislature; and a short time since, a recaptured African was their representative.

IV. COLORED POPULATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

It appears from a comparison of seven censuses of Massachusetts, that in 75 years, from 1765 to 1840, the increase of the colored population has been less than one third as great as that of the whites; and that a large part of that small increase has arisen from immigration.

For 25 years, from 1765 to 1790, the increase of the whites was 56.23 per cent., and that of the colored only 5.07 per cent., or about one fifth of

one per cent. annually. Many of them had been induced, by the offer of freedom, to enlist in the revolutionary army; and there the mortality among them was much greater than among the whites.

From 1790 to 1800, the increase of the whites was checked by emigration to the West, and was only 11.53 per cent. That of the colored was 18.10 per cent. It was aided by immigration from New York and other States, where slavery existed, into Massachusetts, which had now become known as a free State. Yet it was only about half as large as the average increase of the population of the United States.

From 1800 to 1810, the increase of the whites was 11.74, being kept down by continued emigration to the West. That of the colored was only 4.41 per cent.; less than half that of the whites, and less than half of one per cent. a year; at which rate that population would double in about two centuries.

From 1810 to 1820, the increase of the whites was 11.01 per cent.; but the increase of the colored population was only three individuals, or .04 per cent. During this period, the increase of the colored, as well as the white, was kept down by emigration. New York had become a free State, and it is known that some who were originally from that State, now returned to it. Some also emigrated to Hayti, and thirty-eight went with Capt. Paul Cuffee to Sierra Leone, and remained there.

From 1820 to 1830, the increase of the whites was 16.80 per cent. That of the colored was 4.52 per cent., or less than half of one per cent. a year.

From 1830 to 1840, the increase of the whites was 20.58 per cent., and that of the colored, 23.05 per cent., according to the census. But the census is manifestly incorrect. It represents the increase in the Second Ward of Boston as 500—478 males and 22 females; whereas it is well known that the increase there was little or nothing. The error probably arose from counting all whose names were found on the books of sailor boarding houses, where many might be counted who belonged to other ports, and many, having inserted their names on each return from sea, might be counted several times over. After correcting such obvious errors by the best estimates obtainable, their true increase appears to have been about 13.01 per cent., or a little less than two thirds as great in proportion to their numbers, as that of the whites.

A great part of this increase was owing to immigration from other States. According to the census, the increase was, of colored persons under ten years of age, males 114, females 91; from 10 to 20 years of age, males 230, females 92; from 24 to 36, males 719, females 52; from 36 to 55, males 245, females 110; from 55 to 100, an increase of 23 females and a *decrease* of 10 males; of 100 and upwards, a decrease of both. It is plain, therefore, that the additional increase was almost wholly composed of males, in the most active and enterprising period of life. Such a sudden increase of middle-aged males could not come to pass, except from immigration.

According to the census of 1830, the colored population then was, males 3,360, females 3,685; total 7,045. To these numbers, add all born since and yet alive—that is, all under ten years of age—in 1840—viz: males 908, females 900; and we find that if none had died, and none migrated either into the State or out of it, the colored population would have been, males 4,268, females 4,565; total 8,843. But according to the census of 1840, the males were 4,654; that is, 386 more than they would have been without death or migration. The 386 males must have come from other States. The females, in 1840, were 4,015; that is, 570 less than they would have been without death or migration. We may safely assume that there had been at least so many deaths of females; as so many were missing, who would have appeared on the census, had there been no deaths; and as 570 in ten years is only one in 65 annually, whereas, the true proportion in Bos-

ton is known to be more than one in 30. The same proportion of deaths among the males would be 520. This, subtracted from 4,268, the number of males that would have been, without death or migration, leaves 3,748, as the greatest possible number of males in 1840, without immigration. This 3,748, subtracted from 4,654, the number of males on the census of 1840, leaves 906, who were neither in the State in 1830, nor born during the intervening ten years, and who, therefore, must have immigrated from other places. This number, 906, subtracted from 1,624, the whole increase according to the census of 1840, leaves 718, as the natural increase.

But this number needs at least three corrections. First, we should subtract from it at least 452 for ascertained over-numbering, before mentioned; leaving only 266 as the actual increase without immigration. Secondly, we must correct an error in the census of Erving's Grant for 1830. That census gave, colored males under 100 years of age 17, females 17, total 34; colored persons of 100 years and upwards, males none, females 34; total of all ages, 68. The census of the same town for 1840 gave no colored inhabitants. Here is an error, probably of 34, but possibly of 68. The census of 1830 was so much too large, which made the increase in 1840 appear so much too small. Let us take the most favorable supposition, 68. This, added to 266 makes 334, the whole natural increase. Thirdly, from this number we must subtract 294 Marshpee Indians, who were counted in 1840, but not in 1830. The remainder, showing the whole natural increase of the colored population of Massachusetts in ten years, will be 40, or 0.57 per cent., or about half of one per cent. in ten years. If, however, as is probable, the correction for Erving's Grant ought to be only 34 instead of 68, then the whole increase for that ten years was only 6 instead of 40.

In these calculations, we have taken no notice of any immigration but that of males. It is known, however, that some colored females have come into the State from abroad. Several have been brought here as slaves, and our courts have awarded to them liberty to remain as free persons. If the female immigrants have amounted to 45 in ten years, which is less than five a year, and less than one to 20 males, then the number of immigrants has been *greater than* the whole increase, and those who were here in 1830 have not raised children enough to supply the places of those who have died. Such has probably been the fact. And had we the means of analyzing the former censuses with equal accuracy, we should probably be led to the same result with respect to the former periods of ten years each.

This conclusion is strengthened by what is known of the deaths of colored people. In Boston, it appears, by comparing the bills of mortality from 1841 to 1844, with the census of 1840, as corrected for over-numbering, that the mortality among them was 3.16 per cent. annually; and this proportion is known to be too small; as the bills sometimes mention the deaths of colored persons without specifying their color. The deaths of Roman Catholics, mostly Irish, are estimated by the Bishop, or Archbishop, at 900 out of 24,000, or 3.75 per cent. This great proportion is probably the result of intemperance, filth, and the over-working, under-feeding and other brutal treatment of women. According to these estimates, the proportion of deaths among the Protestant whites is only 1.38 per cent.*

It follows, therefore, from premises known to be more favorable than truth will warrant, that the mortality of colored people in Boston is about twice as great as that of the native white population; and that their natural increase in Massachusetts is so very small, that it would not double their number under about two centuries; while the most authentic state-

* From 1823 to 1826 inclusive, the annual mortality of colored people in Baltimore was 3.10 per cent.; in Philadelphia, 5.02 per cent.; and in New York, 5.29 per cent. Some well-informed persons believe that in Boston it is still greater than in New York. Among acclimated colonists in Liberia, from 1841 to 1843 inclusive, it was 3.07 per cent.

ments obtainable, show beyond a reasonable doubt, that, apart from immigration, their number is actually diminishing, and they would soon become extinct, did not new recruits come in from abroad, to supply the ravages of death. A residence in Massachusetts, therefore, is certainly not for their good.

For nearly all these facts, and many others, see a very able article on the "Colored Population of Massachusetts," written by Dr. Jesse Chickering of Boston, and published in the African Repository for October, 1845.

V. OBJECTIONS TO COLONIZATION.

1. "The Colonization Society rivets the chains of the slave."

Answer. The Society has nothing to do with slaves or slavery, except when it finds masters who wish to emancipate; and then it aids them, by settling the emancipated on a fertile soil, in a congenial climate. Sometimes the master bequeaths freedom to his slaves, and his heirs attempt to break the will; and then the Society has to maintain a lawsuit in defense of their freedom. It has expended many thousand dollars in such lawsuits. In these ways, it has secured the emancipation of nearly 3,000 slaves, and is still going on with this good work. How does this "rivet the chains of the slave?"

2. "The Society opposes immediate emancipation on the soil."

Answer. The Society *does not* oppose immediate emancipation on the soil. A few of its friends have expressed their opinion that emancipation ought to be gradual, and accompanied with Colonization; and in some of its earlier Reports, the Society spoke of "the gradual and utter abolition of slavery," as the best thing of which they had any hope. But the Society has never exerted, nor attempted to exert, any influence, adverse to immediate emancipation on the soil. If any wish to emancipate for Colonization, the Society can aid them; but if they wish to emancipate in any other way, its constitution restrains it from intermeddling, one way or the other.

3. "The Society has opposed the anti-slavery movement."

Answer. It has opposed the attempts of anti-slavery men to destroy it. The controversy was begun by certain anti-slavery men, who, without provocation, commenced a war upon the Society, with the avowed purpose, not of reforming the Society, but of destroying it. There has been no contest between them, which did not grow out of that attack.

4. "The Society shows two faces; one at the South, and another at the North."

Answer. The Society refutes the objections which are made in various parts of the country. Some men at the North say that the Society "rivets the chains of the slave." We reply, that we do no such thing; that on the contrary, our labors render emancipation easier and more frequent. Southern men accuse us of intending to interfere with their rights of property. We deny this charge too. We tell them that we have nothing to do with slaves, so long as they are slaves; that we shall neither emancipate their slaves, nor compel them to do it; that emancipation is their work, and not ours; and that when they are ready to do it and desire our help, we shall be glad to help them. And we show both these "faces" in the same publication, which is sent all over the country, so that all who choose to read, either at the North or South, see both of them.

5. "The Society must be bad, because slave-holders are in favor of it."

Answer. There are two classes of slave-holders. Some of them profess to regard slavery as an evil, and to desire its termination. A part of these are our friends,—which is no proof against us. Others say that slavery is

a good institution, and ought to be perpetual. These are all against us. From the beginning, they have been among our bitterest, most decided and most unchanging opposers, because, they say, our operations tend to promote emancipation. We may as well consider their objection next. It is,

6. "Colonization is a sly plan of northern fanatics, to undermine slavery."

Answer. Whose plan it was first, is a question not easily answered. The Society was not formed, till it had become the plan of many of the best men, both at the north and the south. The northern men who then engaged in it, considered the approbation and co-operation of good men at the south an indispensable condition of success. And there was nothing *sly* about it. All its intended and all its desired bearings on slavery were openly proclaimed to the world, from the very first. The accusation may mean, however, that we proceed with such cautious regard for the rights, the feelings and the wishes of all concerned, that no occasion can be found for getting up an excitement against us. If this is the meaning, we demur to the indictment—without denying the fact, we deny that it is a crime.

7. "The Society encourages prejudice against color."

Answer. This accusation is exactly the reverse of truth. The Society finds that prejudice already existing, and fruitful in mischief. It finds the whites violently prejudiced against the colored, and unwilling to associate with them on terms of equality. As the whites are an immense majority, and possess nearly all the wealth, intelligence and respectability in the country, this exclusion exerts a depressing influence on its victims. It also finds the colored people violently prejudiced against their own color, unable to endure the thought of associating exclusively with each other, and feeling, therefore, that their inability to associate with the whites ruins them, and renders all exertions to become respectable nearly or quite hopeless. To remedy this evil, the Society proposes to place colored people in more favorable circumstances; to make a nation of them, where all stations of profit, trust and honor shall be open to them, and to them alone, and where, having free scope for the exercise of their powers, they may show themselves capable of respectability. The Society assumes, that they are capable, in favorable circumstances, of managing the affairs of a nation respectably, and that, if a fair chance is given them, they will do it; and that when they have done it, prejudice against color will be broken down. All its hopes of success are based upon this assumption; for if they have not that capacity, Colonization must of necessity prove a miserable failure. The Society, therefore, instead of encouraging that prejudice, is bearing the most decided testimony against it, and taking the most effectual way to abolish it.

8. "The Society can never remove the whole colored population of this country. The whole commercial marine of the United States is not sufficient to take away even their annual increase."

Answer. This is an old objection, and was fully answered in the Annual Report for 1820.

In the first place, the Society has never undertaken to remove the whole colored population. It has indeed avowed the belief, that the entire separation of the white and colored races, if practicable by proper means, would be highly beneficial to both, and is therefore a proper object of an "earnest wish;" but it openly professes its own inability, "unassisted by the resources of individual States, or of the Union, to provide for colonizing" even "their annual increase." It has undertaken to found a colony, to which colored people will find it advantageous to emigrate; and when this is done, and the colored people are convinced of it, it expects that thousands will find their way there, just as thousands, every year, find their way from Europe to America.

The assertion concerning our "whole commercial marine," though made

by intelligent men, with evident confidence in its truth, is a most enormous blunder. The annual increase of the whole colored population, bond and free, from 1830 to 1840, was 54,356. A vessel is allowed by law to carry three passengers for every five tons of her measurement. At this rate, and allowing each vessel to make three trips in a year, the conveyance of the whole annual increase would require a little less than 30,197 tons of shipping. The tonnage of "the whole commercial marine of the United States," as officially reported at the commencement of the present year, was 2,416,999 tons; or more than eighty times the amount required. It is sufficient, at the rate above stated, to convey to Africa 4,350,597 emigrants in a single year. The whole colored population, bond and free, in 1840, was 2,873,599. Add the increase for six years, at the rate above mentioned, and we have 3,199,726 as their present number. The whole of these would not be enough, by more than a million, to employ our "whole commercial marine" twelve months. The annual increase is far less than the annual emigration from Europe to the United States.

9. "The Society's colony has driven away the missionaries of the American Board."

Answer. The American Board never had a mission in our colony. None of its missionaries were ever there, except for a few days at a time, as visitors, or ever had an opportunity to know much about it, except by hearsay. The mission of the Board in Western Africa was commenced at Cape Palmas, about 100 miles beyond the extreme southeastern limit of our jurisdiction. Their difficulties were not with us, but with the Maryland Colonization Society and its colony, with which we have no connection. As to their being driven away, they did not go till they believed they had found a better location; and the Episcopal mission, which was involved in the same difficulties, remains there still, and does not intend to remove.

10. "The Society is not doing all that ought to be done for the colored people."

Answer. Very true; and we shall be very glad to see others do the rest; and as individuals, so far as we like their plans, we will help them.

VI. CONSTITUTION OF AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY, *As amended at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, in January, 1816.*

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called 'The American Colonization Society.'

ART. 2. The object to which its attention is to be exclusively directed is, to promote and execute a plan for colonizing, with their own consent, the free people of color residing in our country, in Africa, or such other place as Congress shall deem expedient. And the Society shall act, to effect this object, in co-operation with the General Government and such of the States as may adopt regulations on the subject.

ART. 3. Every citizen of the United States who shall have paid to the funds of the Society the sum of one dollar, shall be a member of the Society for one year from the time of such payment. Any citizen who shall have paid the sum of thirty dollars, shall be a member for life. And any citizen paying the sum of one thousand dollars, shall be a Director for life. Foreigners may be made members by vote of the Society or of the Directors.

ART. 4. The Society shall meet annually at Washington on the third Tuesday in January, and at such other times and places as they shall direct. At the annual meeting, a President and Vice Presidents shall be chosen, who shall perform the duties appropriate to those offices.

ART. 5. There shall be a Board of Directors, composed of the Directors for life, and of Delegates from the several State societies and societies for

the District of Columbia and Territories of the United States. Each of such societies shall be entitled to one Delegate for every five hundred dollars paid into the treasury of this Society within the year previous to the annual meeting.

ART. 6. The Board shall annually appoint a Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of seven persons; all of whom shall, *ex officio*, be honorary members of the Board, having a right to be present at its meetings and to take part in the transaction of its business; but they shall not vote, except as provided in Article 7.

ART. 7. The Board of Directors shall meet annually in Washington, immediately after the annual meeting of the Society, and at such other times and places as it shall appoint, or at the request of the Executive Committee. Seven Directors shall form a quorum. But if, at any annual meeting, or meeting regularly called, a less number be in attendance, then five members of the Executive Committee, with such Directors, not less than four, as may be present, shall constitute a Board, and have competent authority to transact any business of the Society; provided, however, that the Board thus constituted shall carry no question unless the vote be unanimous.

ART. 8. The Executive Committee shall meet according to its own appointment, or at the call of the Secretary. This Committee shall have discretionary power to transact the business of the Society, subject only to such limitations as are found in its charter, in this Constitution, and in the votes that have been passed, or may hereafter be passed, by the Board of Directors. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be members of the Committee *ex officio*, with the right to deliberate, but not to vote. The Committee is authorized to fill all vacancies in its own body; to appoint a Secretary or Treasurer whenever such offices are vacant; and to appoint and direct such agents as may be necessary for the service of the Society. At every annual meeting, the Committee shall report their doings to the Society, and to the Board of Directors.

ART. 9. This Constitution may be amended, upon a proposition to that effect by any of the societies represented in the Board of Directors, transmitted to the Secretary, and published in the official paper of the Society, three months before the annual meeting; provided such amendment receive the sanction of two-thirds of the Board at its next annual meeting.

VII. CHARTER OF AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

March 22, 1837.

WHEREAS, by an Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, entitled "*An Act to Incorporate the American Colonization Society*," passed at December session, eighteen hundred and thirty-one, chapter one hundred and eighty-nine, the said Society was incorporated with certain powers: And whereas it is represented to this General Assembly that the rights and interests of said Society have been materially injured, and are likely to suffer further injury, by certain alleged omissions on the part of said Society to give efficiency to said Act: Therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That John C. Herbert, Daniel Murry, Joseph Kent, Ezekiel F. Chambers, Daniel Jenifer, George C. Washington, Virgil Maxcy, Zaccheus Collins Lee, Alexander Randall, Francis S. Key, Walter Jones, Ralph R. Gurley, and William W. Seaton, of the Society called the American Society for colonizing the free people of color of the United States, and their successors, together with such others elected and qualified, as the present or future Constitution, by-laws, ordinances or regulations of said Society, do or shall hereafter prescribe, shall be, and they are hereby created and de-

clared to be, a body politic and corporate, by the name, style and title of The American Colonization Society, and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and shall be able to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded, in any court of law or equity in this State, and may have and use a common seal, and the same may destroy, alter or renew at pleasure, and shall have power to purchase, have and enjoy, to them and their successors, in fee or otherwise, any land, tenements or hereditaments, by the gift, bargain, sale, devise, or other act of any person or persons, body politic or corporate whatsoever; to take and receive any sum or sums of money, goods or chattels, that shall be given, sold or bequeathed to them in any manner whatsoever; to occupy, use and enjoy, or sell, transfer, or otherwise dispose of, according to the by-laws and ordinances regulating the same, now or hereafter to be prescribed, all such lands, tenements or hereditaments, money, goods or chattels, as they shall determine to be most conducive to the colonizing, with their own consent, in Africa, of the free people of color residing in the United States, and for no other uses or purposes whatsoever; and as soon after the passage of this act as may be convenient, to elect such officers as they or a majority of them present may deem proper, and to make and ordain such Constitution, by-laws, ordinances, and regulations as may be necessary for the organization of said Society; and to repeal, alter or amend the same; to prescribe the times of meeting, the qualifications and terms of membership, and to do all such other acts and deeds as they shall deem necessary, for regulating and managing the concerns of the said body corporate: *Provided, however,* that the Constitution and laws of this State and of the United States, and this act of Assembly, be not violated thereby.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That for the object aforesaid, all property, real, personal and mixed, whether in action or possession, and all rights, credits and demands, owned, held or claimed, before this act, by the said Society, and all such property, rights, credits, and demands, as, were it not for this act, might hereafter be owned, held or claimed, by the said Society, shall vest and are hereby declared to vest in the said body corporate and its successors, as fully and effectually as they have or could have vested in said Society; and also that the said body corporate and its successors are hereby declared to be as completely and effectually liable and responsible for all debts, demands and claims, due now or which would hereafter be due by the said Society, if this act of incorporation had not been granted, as the said Society is now or would hereafter be so liable and responsible for.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That the said body corporate and its successors, shall forever be incapable of holding in fee or less estate, real property in the United States, the yearly value of which exceeds the sum of thirty thousand dollars, or the yearly value of so much thereof as may be in this State, exceeds the sum of five thousand dollars.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted,* That the act hereinbefore mentioned of the General Assembly of Maryland, chapter one hundred and eighty-nine of December session, eighteen hundred and thirty, be and the same is hereby repealed: *Saving and reserving, however,* to the persons incorporated by said act, and to the American Colonization Society, all the rights and powers conferred by said act, so far as the same may be necessary for the recovery, possession, holding, or enjoyment of any property, real, personal, or mixed, chose in action or franchise of any description whatsoever, which may have been heretofore given, granted, devised, or bequeathed to or otherwise acquired by the said persons, or any of them, or to or by the American Colonization Society.

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted,* That this act, and the powers and privileges granted thereby, may be at any time repealed, modified, amended or changed, at the discretion of the General Assembly.